CriMNet

Putting the right criminal justice information in the hands of the right people at the right time and in the right place.

What is CriMNet?

CriMNet is connecting statewide criminal and juvenile justice systems to make information available that will strengthen public safety in Minnesota.

- *The CriMNet approach is a comprehensive enterprise architecture for all state and local criminal justice agencies designed to work with everyone -- for everyone -- holistically.*

- *Once complete, CriMNet will give Minnesota's prosecutors, judges, law enforcement officers, probation and corrections officials current, accurate and complete criminal history information on suspects and criminals throughout the state.*

- *CriMNet is not a software or hardware program, nor is it a centralized database. It is a secure intranet system that will link Minnesota's 1,100 criminal justice jurisdictions by using common business practices and a standard computer language.*

Why is CriMNet Important?

Far too often, criminals and suspects fall through the cracks of Minnesota's criminal justice system and remain free to re-offend. This means many senseless murders and crimes could have been prevented if only prosecutors, police officers or judges had accurate information. Right now they are relying on 1970s technology.

CriMNet's Implications for National Security

In the wake of the September 11 tragedy, the concept of CriMNet can serve as a cornerstone for the nation's homeland security. By connecting each state's criminal and juvenile justice systems through a common computer language, complete, accurate and timely information can be shared anywhere in the country. States would improve their public's safety and federal authorities would have much improved access to critical information to better safeguard our nation.

When Completed, CriMNet will Provide Real-Time Statewide Automation of:

- *Statewide case processing*
- *Pre-trial release data*
- *Domestic and restraint conditions*
- *Post-conviction restrictive probation conditions*
- *Weapons prohibition information*
- *Juvenile arrests and conviction data*
- *Total case record, from incident report to outcome, and sanction compliance and completion*

- *Arrest warrant information*
- *Electronic fingerprinting and photo images*
- *Conviction status on all offense levels*
- *Detention/incarceration data*
- *Alcohol/driving restrictions*

Current Status

Implementation of CriMNet is well underway. Several individual components of CriMNet have been developed and are currently operational. Several pilot projects have been completed, with many more beginning in the near future.

Tom Kooy
Deputy Director
Tel. (651) 642-0809
E-Mail: **Tom.Kooy@state.mn.us**

David Billeter
Executive Director
Tel. (651) 632-5182
E-Mail: **David.Billeter@state.mn.us**

Mahogany Eller
Director of Communications
Tel. (651) 642-0810
E-Mail: **Mahogany.Eller@state.mn.us**

CriMNet

Putting the right criminal justice
information in the hands of the
right people at the right time
and in the right place.

Myths vs. Facts

MYTH	Minnesota already has everything from mug shots to fingerprints stored in a computer system.
FACT	Currently, we do not. Under today's system, a county sheriff who wants to know if a person he has detained has any previous arrests or warrants pending from other counties or jurisdictions in the state would have to call each jurisdiction separately to find the information. With 1,100 jurisdictions, this important research rarely occurs. However, much like an Internet search engine, CriMNet will soon allow that sheriff to type in the suspect's name and get his or her entire criminal history.
MYTH	CriMNet will increase the already heavy burden on local law enforcement.
FACT	Local law enforcement officials will benefit from better technology and are often the most ardent supporters of CriMNet. The current system is inefficient and increasingly ineffective, making their job harder and more frustrating. By using CriMNet, local law enforcement will have more success fighting crime.
MYTH	Those applying for jobs that would place them in close proximity to vulnerable populations (children, the elderly, etc.) are weeded out by a thorough background check.
FACT	Because many criminal histories are incomplete and not integrated into a system available to all appropriate personnel, a woman with convictions for abusing senior citizens in Brainerd may be able to get a job in a St. Paul nursing home because her St. Paul record is clean. The reality is that, despite the efforts of employers to keep dangerous people away from their vulnerable populations, some criminals slip through the cracks. CriMNet will seal up those cracks, and allow law enforcement agents to see a person's complete history, regardless of where a conviction occurred. In addition to being more thorough, background checks using CriMNet will take less time, allowing hiring decisions to be made more quickly and confidently.

- over -

David Billeter
Executive Director
Tel. (651) 846-8100
E-mail. David.Billeter@state.mn.us

Tom Kooy
Deputy Director
Tel. (651) 846-8109
E-Mail. Tom.Kooy@state.mn.us

Mahogany Eller
Director of Communications
Tel. (651) 846-8110
E-Mail. Mahogany.Eller@state.mn.us

www.CriMNet.state.mn.us

MYTH	Personal information will be available to too many people.
FACT	Only information on suspected or convicted criminals will be available through CriMNet. The only people who would be allowed to see it would be law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges and probation and corrections officials. CriMNet will just allow for better tracking and data collection of information such as fingerprints, photographs, warrant, probation and conviction status, and weapons and alcohol/driving restrictions.
MYTH	We can't afford CriMNet.
FACT	We can't afford *not* to build CriMNet. Minnesota currently spends nearly $2 billion per year on criminal justice for a system that simply is not complete, accurate or current. More than 100,000 convictions are not on the books because they are "lost" and we "lose" nearly 23,000 more every year because some piece of information is inaccurate or incomplete. The investment in CriMNet is estimated at $260 million over six years and will make our criminal justice system more effective and efficient. What will Minnesotans receive for this investment? • More efficiency for local law enforcement, prosecutors and courts. Using today's outdated technology, tracking down criminal histories can be time consuming. CriMNet makes criminal histories readily accessible. Also, with more data available on suspects, judges will have the information they need to issue arrest warrants and police officers may be more effective in recovering stolen property. • A safer Minnesota, with criminals held and punished appropriately. The price of allowing just one criminal to remain free and re-offend is too high.
MYTH	Law enforcement personnel have access to a person's complete criminal history when making an arrest, preparing a case or during sentencing.
FACT	False! Our crime fighters are constrained by the lack of complete information as they seek to protect the people of Minnesota. Many convictions do not make it on to a person's criminal record, leaving prosecutors to try cases and judges to make sentences with insufficient, inaccurate or incomplete information. Their efforts would be aided, and Minnesotans would be better protected, if they had the best information possible. When operational, CriMNet will allow all appropriate personnel to see the information they need to best protect Minnesotans.
MYTH	CriMNet is simply a technology issue – if everyone gets the same computer systems or software the problem will be solved.
FACT	CriMNet is an "enterprise model" that entails more than just the consistent use of data and technology. While it will be important for each jurisdiction to use technology and data that allow them to interact with one another, it also means the use of consistent business practices by each jurisdiction throughout the state criminal justice system, none of which is in place today. For example, each sheriff's office and police department will have to collect and record the same information from people who have been arrested. The same would be true for the judicial and corrections systems. Therefore all of the criminal's information must be uniformly entered and maintained.

CriMeNet

The following is an actual example. In 2001, Kerry Dean Stevenson, a convicted criminal with a history of violations against children, was preparing to be tried and sentenced in a metro county for criminal sexual misconduct. In reviewing his case, law enforcement, the prosecutor and the judge had access to only part of his criminal record.

His criminal record indicated:
- 10 different names used as aliases
- 7 different birth dates

Year	Convictions	County
1984	DWI	Hennepin
1986	Indecent Conduct	Hennepin
1988	Indecent Exposure	Hennepin
1989	Indecent Exposure	Hennepin
1991	Aggravated Violence – Drivers License Suspended	Hennepin
1997	Criminal Sex Conduct, 4th degree	Hennepin

But this was only part of the story. Stevenson had actually been convicted of many other crimes that could significantly impact the prosecution's case and the sentence handed down from the judge.

Information that was *missing*:

Year	Convictions	County
1983	Indecent Conduct	Hennepin
1985	Indecent Conduct	Anoka
1986	Indecent Conduct	Ramsey
1986	DWI	Hennepin
1987	Indecent conduct	Anoka
1987	Indecent conduct	Anoka
1989	Gross Misdemeanor DWI	Pine
1992	Indecent Conduct	Anoka
1993	Indecent Conduct	Ramsey
1993	Indecent Conduct	Ramsey
1993	Indecent Exposure	Hennepin
1993	Escape from Custody	Hennepin
1994	Theft by Check	Ramsey
1997	Criminal Sex Conduct, 5th degree	Ramsey
1998	Criminal Sex Conduct, 5th degree	Hennepin
2000	Criminal Sex Conduct, 5th degree	Anoka

This happens nearly every day. The state's 1,100 law enforcement agencies cannot share information to ensure they have complete records of a suspect or to connect a suspect with unsolved crimes in other parts of the state. Fortunately, the prosecutor in the case was able to obtain this additional criminal information in time for Stevenson's trial and sentencing.
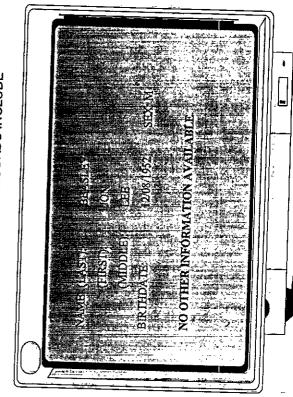
CriMNet

What Does CriMNet Look Like?

Police arrest a suspect. A computer check shows no outstanding warrants or even any criminal history. The suspect is released pending a hearing. What the police don't know is that the suspect was convicted of a violent crime in one Minnesota county, is being sought as a suspect in a felony case in another county and is suspected of a gross misdemeanor in a third county. Unfortunately, the arresting officers had no access to this information, so this person is back on the streets.

Tragically, this scenario is repeated time and time again throughout Minnesota — not just at the time of the arrest, but right up to the point when the judge imposes a sentence. A person's criminal past is hidden in systems that do not share information.
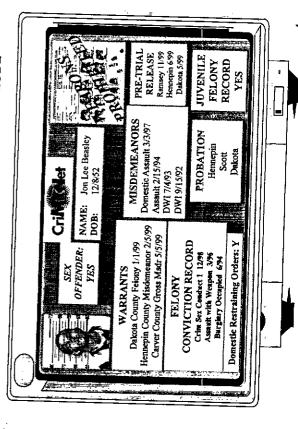
If implemented statewide, CriMNet will give Minnesota's prosecutors, judges, law enforcement officers and probation and corrections officials current criminal history information on suspects and criminals throughout the state.
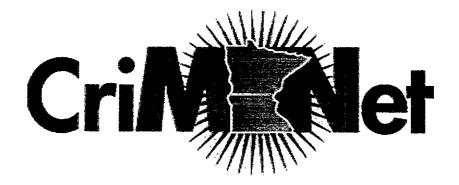
CriMNet will provide immediate and complete access to electronic fingerprints, photos, warrant status, pre-trial release status, domestic and other restraint conditions, conviction status on all offense levels, probation status, weapons prohibition status, detention/incarceration status and alcohol/driving restrictions in every county in Minnesota.

WHAT CURRENT RECORDS INCLUDE


```
NAME  (LAST)→  BEASLEY
      (FIRST)→  JON
      (MIDDLE)→  LEE
BIRTHDATE→  12/08/1952   SEX: M
NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE
```

WHAT CRIMNET RECORDS WOULD INCLUDE

CriMNet

ARRESTED
WHITE MALE
PROFILE...

SEX OFFENDER: YES

NAME: Jon Lee Beasley
DOB: 12/8/52

WARRANTS
Dakota County Felony 1/1/99
Hennepin County Misdemeanor 2/5/99
Carver County Gross Msdr 5/5/99

FELONY CONVICTION RECORD
Crim Sex Conduct 1 12/96
Assault with Weapon 3/96
Burglary Occupied 6/94

Domestic Restraining Orders: Y

MISDEMEANORS
Domestic Assault 3/3/97
Assault 2/15/94
DWI 7/4/93
DWI 9/15/92

PRE-TRIAL RELEASE
Ramsey 11/99
Hennepin 6/99
Dakota 5/99

PROBATION
Hennepin
Scott
Dakota

JUVENILE FELONY RECORD
YES

DEFINITION: A process and coordination of technologies for allowing criminal justice professionals to share accurate, timely and complete information.

DESCRIPTION OF PROBLEM: In Minnesota, approximately 1100 agencies collect criminal and juvenile justice information across all levels and branches of government. This information, collected on individuals, incidents and cases, is often incomplete and unavailable to other criminal justice professionals. The information is the key to ensuring that offenders are held accountable. Three specific areas need to be addressed:

Accountability	Example: Criminal is being sentenced in one county for a crime, but the judge doesn't have information or convictions in other counties. Result: Criminal isn't held accountable.
Officer Safety	Example: Officer conducts a traffic stop and checks the driver's criminal history. It comes back clear, despite the fact that there is an outstanding warrant for the driver.
Public Safety	Example: Criminal history checks are routinely used to determine if a daycare provider, teacher or other caregiver poses a public safety risk. Often this information is incomplete.

ISSUES:

■ Develop an integrated data system that will allow for the linking and reference of relevant criminal justice information across jurisdictions.

■ Work with local governments to determine how the model can be used or modified for statewide application.

■ Ensure that business practices of state and local criminal justice agencies support the integration of criminal justice information.

OUTCOMES:

Better Information, Better Decisions. Law enforcement and criminal justice will have better information on a more timely basis to make better decisions.

Greater Accountability. The accurate and complete data will allow criminal justice professionals to solve more cases more quickly and track more offenses, ensuring greater offender accountability to the state, victims and to the community.

Safer Society. Criminal justice professionals and the public will be safer with the improved information system.

May 24, 2002

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Mahogany Eller 651-642-0810

cellular 651-271-5778

David Billeter, Executive Director of CriMNet, Invited to Speak at the Internet Society's 12th Annual INET Conference: "Internet Crossroads: Where Technology and Policy Intersect"

Saint Paul, MN -- David Billeter, Executive Director of CriMNet (Minnesota's criminal justice integration initiative) has been invited to speak at the INET 2002 on the topic of e-government. Just as e-business is transforming companies, e-government promises to make governments more effective, and CriMNet will offer criminal justice professionals within the State of Minnesota the ability to exchange information and conduct transactions securely, reliably, and in real time regardless of installed technology infrastructures within their agencies and throughout the State of Minnesota.

The Internet Society's Annual Conference is a unique gathering of the global Internet community. At the 12th annual INET conference, technology experts, policy makers, and business leaders will debate and discuss the technologies and policies that will define the future of the Internet. Minnesota State CIO and Commissioner of Administration, David Fisher, stated: "CriMNet is at the forefront of criminal justice information networking and integration. As a major initiative of the State of Minnesota and its law enforcement and criminal justice communities, CriMNet is a national model for crime fighting and for protecting the safety of the public. It is an honor that CriMNet is being recognized by the Internet Society."

Billeter, a 38-year-old attorney, has been at the cutting-edge of technological advances in both the public and private sectors for the past decade and has taken the lead in Minnesota's effort to integrate all criminal justice computers, encompassing more than 1,100 entities. Billeter comes to CriMNet from General Motors, where he was responsible for implementing the GM Global BuyPower web application, which created multi-customer access to the world of GM products, services, and suppliers in over 30 countries worldwide.

CriMNet represents a revolutionary new approach towards the criminal justice process and is anticipated to serve as a model for the rest of the country. CriMNet's ultimate goal is to provide a safe and secure environment for the people of Minnesota by administering a system of justice that is community-centered, fair, timely, efficient, and accessible and that ensures offender accountability to the state, to victims, and to the community. The CriMNet motto is, "Putting the right criminal justice information in the hands of the

right people at the right time and in the right place." In the wake of the September 11 tragedy, the concept of CriMNet can serve as a cornerstone for the nation's homeland security. By connecting each state's criminal and juvenile justice systems, complete, accurate and timely information can be shared anywhere in the country. States would improve public safety and federal authorities would have much improved access to critical information to better safeguard our nation. Read more about CriMNet at www.crimnet.state.mn.us.

The Internet SOCiety (ISOC) is a professional membership society with more than 150 organizational and 6,000 individual members in over 100 countries. It provides leadership in addressing issues that confront the future of the Internet, and is the organization home for the groups responsible for Internet infrastructure standards, including the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and the Internet Architecture Board (IAB). A common stake in maintaining the viability and global scaling of the Internet binds the Society's individual and organization members. They comprise the companies, government agencies, and foundations that have created the Internet and its technologies as well as innovative new entrepreneurial organizations contributing to maintain that dynamic. Visit their home pages to see how Internet innovators are creatively using the network http://www.isoc.org/isoc/. Its Board of Trustees, elected by its membership around the world, governs the Society.

Also presenting at the INET 2002, will be global Internet community leaders including:

- Internet "Fathers" Vint Cerf and Robert Kahn on *Critical Points in the Development of the Internet*

- Renowned author and Stanford professor Larry Lessig with representatives of the entertainment industry on *Ideas and Intellectual Property in Cyberspace*

- John Podesta, former Chief of Staff in the Clinton administration with Bill Crowell, former Deputy Director of the National Security Agency and now CEO of Cylink, on *Wiretapping the Internet*

- Former Chairman of the U.S. Federal Communication Commission Reed Hundt, Vice President of Technology Strategy at IBM, Irving Wladawsky-Berger, and other leaders of the Internet community on *What's Next for the Internet?*

#

Senator Pariseau Takes Firsthand Look at CriMNet:
Crime Prevention's Wave of the Future

(ST. PAUL) This week Minnesota public safety officials gave State Senator Pat Pariseau (R-Farmington) a virtual tour of CriMNet, the groundbreaking criminal justice data system she labored to fund last session.

Recent high profile cases like Donald Blum's abduction of Katie Poirier have painfully illustrated the need to combine all relevant information on crime suspects, especially those with an extensive criminal background or multiple identities.

Last year the legislature significantly contributed towards that goal by investing $27 million in CriMNet, a program that will eventually allow police in any part of the state to instantly access a suspect's complete criminal history.

When completed, it will offer city, county, state and federal information on prior arrests, juvenile detention, court verdicts, prosecution, defense, jail or prison sentences and probation. The CriMNet program is serving as a national model of crime prevention efficiency.

"In theory alone, CriMNet was easy to support. But actually seeing it up and running today proved beyond a doubt that we made a worthwhile investment," Senator Pariseau commented. "As the stakes of public safety have risen over the past year, I feel good knowing we are growing better prepared through projects like this."

As part of the overall CriMNet endeavor, the state is also working to compile photographs of known criminals. MRAP, the Minnesota Repository of Arrest Photos, will allow police to put together a virtual line up of mug shots in a matter of minutes.

CriMNet officials, who visited Senator Pariseau this week to demonstrate the computer system and to provide a status report, say comprehensive background files like these are so valuable some law enforcement agencies will forego squad cars and other basics in order to purchase them.

"Each added bit of information we can provide to our law enforcement officers reduces the size of the mesh in their nets," Senator Pariseau explained. "Every piece of data we can share on these perpetrators decreases the chances that they'll slip through our grasp."

-more-

In all, the state has contributed $57 million to the CriMNet effort so far. Officials with the program say they will need approximately $200 million more to take CriMNet from the prototype stage to a fully operational form throughout the state. Lawmakers expect to receive a sizeable funding request next session in order to continue progress on the project.

"The work that has gone into CriMNet is amazing," said Senator Pariseau. "I am more committed than ever to seeing it through."

###

April 18, 2002
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:
Kevin Smith, 651/296/8383
Pgr. 612/538-3133
Cynthia Lehman, 651/282-2915

WEAVER: MINNESOTA'S CRIMNET SYSTEM BECOMING MODEL IN MIDWEST

Bordering states to discuss interstate criminal justice information sharing

Saint Paul, MN -- As Minnesota begins a new and critical phase of building CriMNet—a statewide plan to integrate criminal justice information systems—border states are joining Minnesota to participate in a regional effort that could serve as a cornerstone to the nation's homeland security.

The current phase of CriMNet involves developing a technology platform that would allow participating states to share criminal justice and other critical public safety information.

Representatives from Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, South Dakota, Indiana and North Dakota will meet with CriMNet project managers on Friday to discuss how the system, originally designed to link 1,100 Minnesota criminal justice agencies, could be used to achieve interstate exchange of information.

Commissioner of Public Safety and State Director of Homeland Security Charlie Weaver says Minnesota is looking forward to sharing what it has learned and accomplished in developing CriMNet. "The participation of other states in sharing data on criminals is key to keeping Minnesotans safe," says Weaver.

"When our nation was attacked last September, we learned a difficult lesson about the need to share information at all levels," says Weaver. "By connecting states' criminal and juvenile justice systems, we improve public safety in our own communities and in our region, and we provide a model for federal authorities to safeguard our nation."

CriMNet Executive Director David Billeter says he believes most states recognize the value of a regional approach to public safety. "When we talk with criminal justice professionals in Duluth they are understandably more concerned about criminals in neighboring Superior, Wisconsin, than criminals in Minneapolis," says Billeter.

"Criminals are extremely transient," says Billeter. "They're not just moving from one county to the next, but from state to state, across the nation and, as we have seen with terrorists, even from country to country," says Billeter.

###